

## Summary of Recreational Groundfish Regulations for 2012 NORTHERN Management Area



Ocean waters between 42°00' N. latitude (CA-OR Border) and 40°10' N. latitude (near Cape Mendocino) Includes all of Del Norte County and most of Humboldt County

Note: Shaded areas indicate regulations that have changed for 2012. Regulations in this table may change during the year. Before engaging in ocean sportfishing for groundfish and associated species, please review one of the resources

listed in Footnote 1 to receive the most up-to-date regulations.

Species	Time Period <sup>1, 2, 3</sup>	Depth Limit <sup>1, 2, 3</sup>	Daily Bag Limit <sup>1</sup>	Min. Size Limit <sup>1, 4, 5</sup>
RCG Complex <sup>1</sup>	Boat-based Anglers <sup>2</sup> :	May only be taken or	10 fish in combination	See individual species
(including all	Open: May 12-Oct 31	possessed in waters	per person EXCEPT:	and groups below
species of	Closed: Jan 1-May 11,	shallower than 120 ft		
Rockfishes,	and Nov 1-Dec 31	(20 fm) deep	Cabezon: 3 fish per	Cabezon: 15" total
<b>Cabezon</b> and			person	length
Greenlings,	Divers, Shore-based	SEE EXCEPTION AT		
Sections 1.91 and	Anglers <sup>2</sup> :	END OF TABLE	Bocaccio: 2 fish per	Kelp and/or rock
28.55, 28.28, and	Open year-round		person	greenlings: 12" total
28.29)				length
				Bocaccio: 10" total
				length

## THESE ROCKFISHES MAY NOT BE TAKEN IN CALIFORNIA:

Canary Rockfish, Cowcod, Bronzespotted Rockfish and Yelloweye Rockfish (Section 28.55)

FISHING IS CLOSED year-round, at all depths

NO RETENTION at any time (zero fish per person)

Lingcod (Section 28.27)	Same as RCG Complex above		2 fish per person	22" total length
Leopard Shark <sup>6</sup> (Section 28.56)	All Anglers - within Humboldt Bay: Open year-round	All Anglers - within Humboldt Bay: No depth limit	3 fish per person	36" total length
	Outside of Humboldt Bay: Same as RCG Complex above	Outside of Humboldt Bay: Same as RCG Complex above		
Pacific Sanddabs and "Other Flatfish" <sup>3</sup> (Section 28.48)	OPEN year-round <sup>3</sup>	No depth limit <sup>3</sup>	Pacific sanddab: No limit  All "Other Flatfish" <sup>3</sup> : 10 fish of each species, limit 20 fish in combination per Section 27.60	No size limit
Other Federal Groundfish (Section 28.49)	Same as RCG Complex above		Petrale sole and starry flounder: No limit  Soupfin shark: 1 fish per person  All Other Federal Groundfish: 10 fish of each species, limit 20 fish in combination per Section 27.60	No size limit

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- 1. Subject to in-season change. Call the Recreational Groundfish Fishing Regulations Hotline at **(831) 649-2801**, visit the Marine Region Web site at **www.dfg.ca.gov/marine**, send an e-mail to **AskMarine@dfg.ca.gov**, or call your nearest DFG office for the latest information.
- 2. Divers and shore-based anglers are exempt from season and depth restrictions affecting the RCG complex and other federally managed groundfish. However, when spear fishing during a boat-based closure, only spear fishing gear is allowed aboard any vessel or watercraft. Also, when angling from shore during a boat-based closure, no vessel or watercraft may be used to assist in taking or possessing species included in this table. The following definitions describe boat-based and shore-based anglers, and divers:
  - Boat-based anglers are fishermen that fish from boats or vessels of any size or any other type of floating object, including kayaks and float tubes.
  - Shore-based anglers are fishermen that fish from beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks and other manmade structures connected to the shore.
  - Divers are spear fishermen entering the water either from the shore or from a boat or other floating object.
- 3. During the closed season, Pacific sanddab, butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole (defined as "Other Flatfish" in subsection 1.91(a)(10)) may be taken.
- 4. See regulations for information on gear restrictions (Sections 28.65, 28.70, 28.75, 28.90, 28.91, and 28.95) and fillet lengths (Section 27.65).
- 5. Total length is the longest straight-line measurement from the tip of the head with the mouth closed to the end of the longest lobe of the tail. A measurement method illustration is available in the current Ocean Sport Fishing Regulations booklet.
- 6. The sport fishery for leopard shark inside Humboldt Bay is exempt from season and depth restrictions that affect other federally managed groundfish (Section 28.56).

EXCEPTION: During the open season, groundfish may be possessed in closed areas and in water depths closed to fishing only aboard vessels in transit with no fishing gear in the water. See subsection 27.20(b).